AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A method of treating incineration ash and wastewater sludge, wherein a mutual relation in using nutrients exists between the incineration ash containing heavy metal and organic wastes containing the wastewater sludge and sulfate-reducing bacteria, comprising the steps of:

burying the incineration ash together with the organic wastes under the ground, whereby the bacteria reduces the sulfates existing in the incineration ash to form sulfides;

binding the formed sulfides with the heavy metal to form insoluble metal sulfides, thereby preventing the heavy metal from exuding out of the incineration ash as an eluate.

2. (Previously Presented) The method for treatment of the incineration ash and the wastewater sludge as claimed in claim 1, wherein the said organic wastes comprise sewage sludge containing said sulfate-reducing bacteria.

3. (Currently Amended) A method for the treatment of incineration ash and wastewater sludge, comprising: burying the incineration ash containing heavy metal together with organic wastes containing sulfate-reducing bacteria under the ground as an accumulation, and covering them with a depth of soil

so that said sulfate-reducing bacteria ~~promotes~~ promote the heavy metal to precipitate in the form of dissoluble metal sulfides, whereby the heavy metal is ~~provided~~ prevented from exuding out of the incineration ash as an eluate.

4. (Previously Presented) The method for the treatment of the incineration ash and the wastewater sludge as claimed in claim 3, comprising two or more unit stages of the buried accumulation, each of which includes the incineration ash and the organic wastes containing the sulfate-reducing bacteria, said accumulations being constructed in a predetermined pattern of arrangement, and the depth of covering soil forming a barrier which defines a boundary between said unit stages of buried accumulation.

5. (Previously Presented) The method for treatment of the incineration ash and the wastewater sludge as claimed in claims 3 or 4, wherein said organic wastes comprise sewage sludge containing the said sulfate-reducing bacteria.

6. (Currently Amended) A method for the treatment of incineration ash and wastewater sludge, ~~which~~ comprising the steps of:

collecting and mixing aqueous eluate exuded from the incineration ash and aqueous eluate exuded from organic waste containing sulfate-reducing bacteria, in a disposal plant; and

reacting both of the aqueous elutes so that the sulfate-reducing bacteria existing in the aqueous eluate exuded from organic waste containing sulfate-reducing bacteria, in a disposal plant; and

reacting both of the aqueous elutes so that the sulfate-reducing bacteria existing in the aqueous eluate exuded from the organic waste deposits ~~the~~ heavy metals from the aqueous eluate exuded from the incineration ash as ~~the~~ insoluble metal sulfides, which results in the disposal of the aqueous eluate exuded from the incineration ash and the aqueous eluate exuded from the organic waste.

7. (CANCELLED)

8. (Previously Presented) The method for the treatment of the incineration ash and the wastewater sludge as claimed in claim 6, wherein the organic wastes comprises wastewater sludge containing said sulfate-reducing bacteria.

9. (New) The method for treatment of the incineration ash and the waste as claimed in claim 6, wherein a portion of the precipitated insoluble metal sulfides is extracted and only the heavy metals are subsequently recovered.